REMARKS

Summary of the Office Action

All claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,936,619 ("Nagasaki").

Summary of the Response

Claims 1-5, 11-12, 14-18, 20, 23-25, and 28-29 have been amended.

Claims 6-10, 13, 19, 21-22, 26-27, and 30-32 have not been amended.

No Claims have been cancelled.

Detailed Remarks

Applicant believes that Nagasaki misses the current claims for various reasons. Nagasaki is primarily concerned with configuring the appearance of output based on the detection of an orientation of an apparatus on which the output is provided when the apparatus is in the used-state.

The claimed invention takes into account more than just the appearance of the output. Among other aspects claimed herein, the functionality assigned to input mechanisms, and the orientation of the input mechanisms are not taught in Nagasaki.

Claims 1-15:

Claim 1 has been amended to recite the following limitation:

"wherein at least one of a functionality or designated position of at least one of the plurality of input features is based on the selected orientation"

Applicant submits that claims 1-15 are allowable over Nagasaki because that reference does not teach configuration of input mechanisms of a user-interface in the manner claimed.

Applicant also draws the Examiner's attention to dependent claims 5 and 12, in particular.. Claim 5 teaches the assignment of functionality of a user-interface based on the position of individual buttons in the orientation. Claim 12 recites that the orientation of a handwriting input mechanism is selected based on the detected orientation. Neither of these features are disclosed in the cited art.

Claims 16-28:

The arguments stated above are repeated. With regard to claim 16, Applicant submits that the step of "selecting at least one of a functionality or position for one or more of the plurality of input features" is not taught or suggested by the cited references.

Applicant also brings the examiner's attention to other dependent claims, which include additional distinguishable subject matter. For example, claim 21 provides that the orientation can be interpreted from a button press by the user. Claim 26 recites configuration of a handwriting area based on the interpreted orientation of the device.

Claims 29-30:

Claim 29 has been amended to recite that the detection mechanisms is "based on a user's contact with the electronic device." This feature in particular is not taught or suggested in the cited references.

Claim 31:

Claim 31 has not been amended because Applicant believes that Nagasaki does not teach the aspect of setting the orientation of a set of actuatable surfaces.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims are patentable over the art of record. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is requested by Applicants. Applicants urge the Examiner to telephone Applicants' attorney at (408) 551-6632 if any issues remain that preclude allowance of the application. The Office is given permission to charge any unpaid fees to Applicants' deposit account (50-1914).

Respectfully submitted,

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